

taining those fortifications already existing. Screens on roads were also kept in repair. Practically all this work was done at night. On account of the injury Lieutenant Church received July 16th he was evacuated on July 21st.

The third platoon (B-3), under Lieutenant Marrian, remained at Strathcona Camp and were engaged in infantry training with Company A.

The fourth platoon (B-4), under Lieutenant Hill, went to Machine Gun Farm Camp and were attached to another company of R. E.'s here until July 23rd. The work of this platoon was similar in all details to that of the second platoon, being front line work on the right Brigade Sector. The work was divided on the division front in two parts, the right Brigade Sector and the left Brigade Sector. The platoon at Dead End Camp did the work for the left brigade and the one at Machine Gun Farm that for the right brigade.

Only a general outline of the work done is given, as it is impossible to give chronologically all the work and details looked after and performed. Whatever was needed in the sector was done, including the building of aid posts, headquarters and all other construction. The infantry occupying the front line trenches were expected to maintain it in condition and the Engineers furnished the materials required. All other defenses were under direct supervision of the Engineers.

While the platoons of Company B were attached to the R. E. companies, the C. O. Company B, Captain Winthrop, was attached to the C. R. E. of the 49th British Division, with headquarters at La Lovie Chateau.

*Company C:* From July 11th to July 15th Company C remained at Strathcona Camp and was engaged in infantry drill as described above. On July 16th three platoons of Company C were detached and sent out on engineering work, while one platoon, C-3, remained and continued the infantry training. These three platoons were engaged as follows:

The first platoon (C-1), under Lieutenant Peschau, on July 16th moved to a camp at

G 10 Central and were attached to one of the R. E. field companies of the 33rd British Division.

The other two platoons, C-2 under Lieutenant Thorne and C-4 under Lieutenant Cille, moved to Query Camp in G 11 a, where each platoon was attached to a company of the R. E.'s of the 33rd Division.

The 33rd British Division was at this time holding the front in the Canal Sector. The division boundaries and the inter-brigade boundary were as shown on map (*Plate I*) and the work of these three platoons was about the same in this sector as described for the three platoons of Company B in the Ypres Sector, two platoons doing front line work in the brigade sectors and one platoon on work on the intermediate lines. Night and day work was carried on as outlined for Company B. These platoons remained at this work through July 23rd.

While the platoons of Company C were attached to the R. E. companies of the 33rd British Division, Captain George, the C. O. Company C, was attached to the C. R. E. of the 33rd British Division, with headquarters at Convent Camp.

*First Battalion Headquarters:* While headquarters was maintained at Strathcona Camp, the battalion commander made frequent trips to the front lines to visit the work of the platoons and to familiarize himself with the terrain and the defense system. While attached to the British divisions in the line the warfare was entirely a defensive one and to use the British term in regard to them, "the British had the wind up badly." In the case of both platoons attached to the R. E. companies in the two sectors working on intermediate lines, working parties from the Infantry were employed to expedite the work. Attacks by the enemy were expected almost daily and particularly on July 17th, when all troops went to their work prepared for defensive action. In many cases Infantry in reserve occupied the intermediate trenches at night prepared for defense or counter attacks. Every precaution had been taken and all units had their orders and knew what